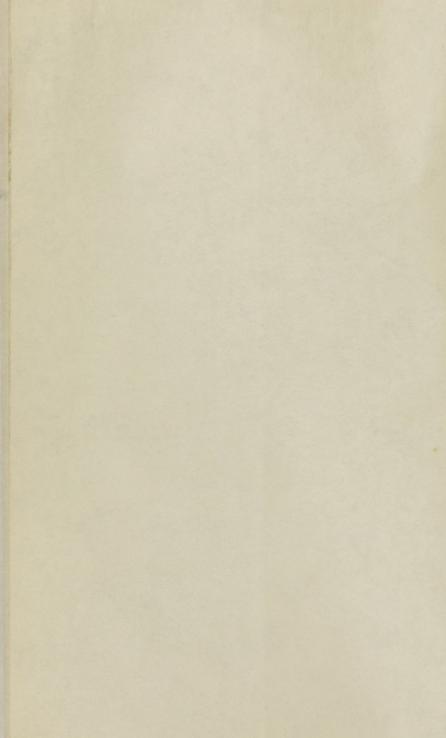
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# MEDICAL STATISTICS;

OR A

# COMPARATIVE VIEW OF THE MORTALITY

IN

## NEW-YORK, PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE, AND BOSTON,

FOR A SERIES OF YEARS:

INCLUDING

COMPARISONS OF THE MORTALITY OF WHITES AND BLACKS IN THE TWO FORMER CITIES; AND OF WHITES, FREE BLACKS, AND SLAVES, IN BALTIMORE.

By NATHANIEL NILES, Jun. M. D.

JOHN D. RUSS, M. D.

### NEW-YORK:

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Southern District of New-York, ss.

BE IT REMEMBERED. That on the nineteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, and in the fifty-second year of the Independence of the United States of America, Nathaniel Niles, jun. and John D. Russ, of the said District, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof they claim as authors and proprietors, in the worls following, to wit:

\* Medical Statistics; or a Comparative View of the Mortality in New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston, for a series of years, including Comparisons of the Mortality of Whites and Blacks in the two former Cities, and of Whites, Free Blacks, and Slaves, in Baltimore. By Nathaniel Niles, jun. M. D. and John D. Russ, M. D."

In conformity to the Act of Congress of the United States, entitled, "An Act for the encouragement of Learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned" And also to an Act entitled, "An Act supplementary to an Act entitled, An Act for the encouragement of Learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned, and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints."

FRED. J. BETTS,

FRED. J. BETTS,
Clerk of the Southern District of New-York.

# REMARKS.

THE matter contained in the following Tables has been taken from authentic bills of mortality; and so far as comparisons have been instituted, diseases of the same general character have been included under the same head for each of the cities.

The most recent censuses which have been taken in each of the several cities have served as a basis for estimating the population, on the supposition that the increase has been regularly progressive from one of those periods to the other.

In New-York, (being under the official superintendence of a medical gentleman,) the returns on which we found our present calculations, are made with greater regularity than in the neighbouring cities. This will account for the apparent deficiencies in the Tables relating to Baltimore and Boston.

Would not the ends of justice, as well as the cause of science, be promoted by the appointment of a medical officer in every city, whose duty it should be to examine the circumstances attending the death of every individual, and to make a return of the age, sex, profession, disease and its duration, as well as the time and place of death; regard being always paid to the circumstances of colour, and of freedom or slavery?

A uniform method might be adopted for reporting these facts in a tabular form, so as greatly to facilitate future investigations and comparisons. In this way the chances of life in one city could be readily compared with those in another—the comparative advantages of town and country residence, under similar latitudes, determined. The influence of various causes of death, which are now unseen and unknown, could thus be measured and comprehended. But these investigations should be accompanied by topographical descriptions and meteorological observations.

The study of diseases under their general classifications, in relation to topography and the influence of climate, as heat and cold, drought and dampness, sunshine and shade, exposure to winds, &c. is of great interest; and these investigations become more important as our inquiries extend to the influence of occupations, poverty and wealth, political superiority or subordination, prevailing vices, &c. upon the longevity of man, and his reproductive capacites, intellectual and physical perfection, under the more or less varying effects of these several causes. A sufficient number of observations, embracing all these conditions, would afford a sure basis for a comparative estimate of the value or length of life, under the dominant influence of each.

The combining and comparing the great facts in the natural and civil history of every individual, offers, in this country at least, a wide and unoccupied field for interesting research.

A record of all births, and the ages of the father and mother at the time of the birth of each of their children, would furnish the means for ascer taining the duration of successive generations, and of instituting inquiries as to the influence of climate, the greater or less degree of refinement in society, &c. upon the development of the human body into a state of perfect manhood.

To pursue our remarks, we will venture to call the public attention to the importance of having annual returns made of the amount of political crimes in each State; so that they may be classified, and compared with crimes of a similar character in other States of the Union, in proportion to their population, and also with those of other countries. By these means the influence of climate, laws, manners, systems of religion, occupations, slavery, &c. would be rendered comprehensible, and enable us to appreciate the perfection of our own country and its institutions, in comparison with others.

Let similar investigations be instituted in relation to all the evidences of public prosperity and distress, and the whole elements of society will be disclosed to our contemplation, and lead us directly to a knowledge of the defects and their causes, which exist in our system of social and legal order. In this extended sense, statistics furnish the true lights to the philosopher and legislator.

Summary of Deaths per year, in the City of New-York, for a series of eleven years, by the following Diseases.

Years.	Population.	Whole No. of Deaths.	Consumption.	Acute Diseases of the Lungs.	Whole No. of Deaths by Diseases of Lungs.	Fevers.	Dropsies.	Dysentery.	Cholera Infantum, (for	Croup.	Tabes Mesenterica.	Gastro Enteritis.	Whooping Cough.	Apoplexy.	Measles.	Intemperance.	Diseases of the Liver.	Palsy.	Smallpox.	Suicide.
1816	111830	2739	678	188			211	71		87	47	53	44	53	19	30	30	22	179	15
	114660						187	71		69	39	61	11	46		40			14	
	117560						241		68	78	111	61	123	46		38				
	120550						223			78	137	4.7	55	67		35				
	123606								169			64	19	54		28			00	
	131120								114			60	92	4.5	109	64	45	37	00	16
	139100								115			73	35	60	1	44	4.0	36	00	13
	147580						291		150			88	31	58	117	43	48	31	18	18
	156530								102			123	116	52	100	70	50	40	394	19
1825	166087	5018	843	295	1138	435	343	138	151	141	143	117	69	147	53	84	72	62	40	14
1826	176190	4973	820	290	1110	335	350	193	222	161	132	114	126	69	31	55	64	44	58	29

In this Table, under the head Acute Diseases of the Lungs, we have included Pleurisy; for although in its commencement it may be a distinct disease, it rarely, if ever occasions death, without affecting the body of the lungs.

Every description of Fever as returned, except Scarlet and Hectic, are included under the general head of Fevers. The Typhoid character of Puerperal Fever appears so evident from its general prevalence at the same epochs with Typhus, that we have taken the liberty to include it also under the same head.

Under Dropsies, all forms of that disease are included.

TABLE II.

Summary of Deaths per Month in the City of New-York, for a series of eleven years, by the following Diseases, viz:

		-		-					-	-			-
DISEASES.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Consumption	660	659	644	664	616	510	591	663	579	585	645	650	7466
Acute Diseases of Lungs.	200	292	254	230	210	114	117	105	92	141	152	172	2069
Fevers	178	137	158	186	211	245	262	374	497	441	305	211	3205
Dropsies	244	257	241	245	259	242	272	308	269	259	210	245	3044
Dysentery	22		29	7	16	28	233	489	378	203	79	36	1544
Cholera Infantum(10y'rs)	2	2	2	1	5	32	246	527	288	108	14	18	1245
Croup	137	106	122	106	91	66	69	67	84	140	139	122	1239
Tabes Mesenterica	68	66	85	95	79	69	80	126	139	135	89	84	1115
Gastro Enteritis	48	54	56	60	60	76	121	97	94	69	67	59	861
Whooping Cough	53	66	42	33	37	31	73	105	105	71	56	49	721
Apoplexy	49	59	56	47	57	45	109	59	45	59	55	57	697
Measles	48	42	46	45	32	44	65	77	45	39	24	45	552
Intemperance	49	32	33	31	49	47	46	43	44	47	63	47	531
Diseases of the Liver	48	46	34	35	34	39	57	44	36	64	41		528
Palsy	42	42	44	31	28	28	31	38	25	41	34	44	428
		-											

This Table presents an interesting view of the influence of season upon different diseases. Consumptions, Dropsies, Diseases of the Liver, and Palsy, being chronic forms of disease, are not, in their termination, particularly under the influence of season: On the contrary, its effect is strikingly manifested in all acute forms of disease.

Table showing the proportion of Deaths in New-York, by the following Diseases, to the whole number of Deaths, and the proportion of Deaths (stillborn excluded) to the Population.

									1	Ву	34
Population. Years.	Whole No. of Deaths, (stillborn excluded.)	By Consumption, as one in  Deaths to Population, (stillborn excluded) as	By Acute Diseases of the Lungs, as one in	By Fevers, as one in By Diseases of the Lungs, as one in	By Dropsies, as one in	By Dysentery, as one in	By Cholera Infantum, as one in	By Croup, as one in	By Apoplexy, as one in	Intemperance, as	Palsy, as one in
1816 111830 1817 114660 1818 117560 1819 120550 1820 123606 1821 131120 1822 139100 1823 147580 1824 156530 1825 166087 1826 176190	3106 3' 3008 44 3326 3' 3368 35 2974 44 3221 44 4091 35 4774 35	2 18 3 91 7 .59 4 19 7 .84 5 26 0 0 7 5 .21 7 .10 5 .33 8 .93 4 7 6 .77 4 76 5 .81 4 71 8 .26 5 56	17.58 17.74 23.89 22.62 21.72 518.02 17.79 519.48	4 05 3 9 4 28 10 5 4 30 9 6 3 87 9 9 3 77 7 4 3 73 16 9 4 32 22 8	0 12.88 5 12.88 1 13.48 1 11.50 3 11.73 7 12.14 5 11.07 6 10.85 7 13.91	33.93 22.02 13.73 13.71 23.71 27.28 32.86 34.09 34.59	45 67 22 62 19 68 29 54 25 89 21 47 40 10 31 61	39.81 38.56 31.98 24.05 23.79 31.57 26.56 33.86	52.37 67.52 44.89 61.59 74.84 49.56 55.53 78.67 32.47	60.22 81 74 85 94 118.78 52 62 67.59 74 90 58.44 56.83	83.06 67.52 75.20 81.12 91.02 82.62 103.90 102.27

The Census of 1810, 1820, and 1825, have served us as a basis for estimating the population of the intermediate years, on the supposition that the increase has been regularly progressive from one of those epochs to the other.

#### TABLE IV.

This Table shows the proportion of Deaths, among the Blacks, to their Population, in the City of New-York, for the following years.

Years.	Black Population.	Whole Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths among the Blacks, to Population is as I in	201
1821	10730	550	19.50	C
1822		*		
1823	11600	432	26.85	
1824	12070	718	16.81	
1825	12559	875	14.35	
1826	13060	743	17.53	

1 -1---1

It is worthy of remark, that the rate of increase among the Blacks of the city of New-York, is about 2 per cent. per annum less than that of the Whites, for the last eight years. It is to be regretted that the Diseases which have swept off the Blacks in such disproportionate numbers, have not been reported.

#### TABLE V.

Summary of Deaths in the City of Philadelphia, for a series of seven years, by the following Diseases, viz.

		0			0		0				,	-			
Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths.	Consumption.	Acute Diseases of the Lungs.	Whole Number of Deaths by Diseases of the Lungs.	Fevers.	Dropsies.	Measles.	Intemperance.	Diseases of Liver.	Whooping Cough.	Palsy.	Smallpox.	Suicide.	
1821 1822 1823 1824 1825	114410 116810 119260 121760 124320 126930 129600	3172 3591 4600 4399 3819	438 488 536 576 2519	134 124 141 178	612 677 754 664	744 647 362	194 243 241 221 270	00 00 156 102 38	45 66 65 75 95	49 36 42 41	36 38 79 42	40 28 39 47	00 160 324	2 9	the y

<sup>\*</sup> The Deaths were not returned for the year 1822.

Hoston, for a series of feeres: inelusino formparisons of feeres: inLatite two former exties; and of white,
free shaeles, and shows, in Baltimore,
10 pp. 12, 4°. Som-Jose, & Bliss, 1824. tive rieur of the mostality in new. (Medical wastics; or a compara Wiles (Mathaniel) ig. & Huss Golm D.1



Table showing the proportion of Deaths in Philadelphia by the following Diseases, to the whole number of Deaths—and the proportion of Deaths (stillborn excluded) to the Population.

Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths (still- born excluded.)	Deaths to Population (stillborn exc.) as one in	By Consumption, as one in	By Diseases of Lungs, as one in	By Fevers, as one in	By Dropsies, as one in	By Intemper- ance, as one in
	114410		35.87	7.15	5.44	6.07	15.25	151 85
	116810							
	119260		35 77	6.83	5.44	6.69	13.72	50.51
1823	121760	4372	27.84	8.15	6.45	5.87	18.14	67.26
1824	124320	4284	29.02	7.43	5 68	6.62	19.38	57.12
1825	126930							37.25
1826	129600							

In this Table the rate of increase, as determined by the census of 1810 and of 1820, have served as a basis for making out the population for the subsequent years, there having been no census taken in 1825.

TABLE VII.

Proportion of Deaths among the Blacks, in Philadelphia, to their Population.

	Mala la	-11	
Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Population as one in
1820	10994		
	11220		16.35
1822	11460	560	20.46
	11700		
	11940		
	12190		
1826	12450	529	23.53

TABLE VIII.

Summary of Deaths per year in the City of Baltimore, for a series of eight years, by the following Diseases, viz.

										-	-	-	-	-
Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths.	Consumption.	Acute Diseases of the Lungs.	Whole No of Deaths by Dis eases of Lungs.	Fevers.	Dropsies.	Measles.	Intemperance.	Whoop'g Cough	Diseases of Liver	Palsy.	Smallpox.	Suicide.
1010	60900	9287	258	70	328	521	68	116				7	1	3
	62738				370	158	58			27			00	4
	64630			-	369	395	70			28			21	2
	66590					429	88	4	47	17	48	19		
				-		303			25	31	18	11	2	5
	68600			-	235	185			25	14	18	9	2	5
	70670			-	339	135		9	21	13	33	11	3	7
1325	72810	1545	295			164				45			4	4
1826	74990	1922	306	48	354	104	04	0	-	1.0	1-0	-	-	

Table showing the proportion of Deaths in Baltimore, by the following Diseases, to the whole number of Deaths—and the proportion of Deaths (stillborn excluded) to Population.

Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths (still-born excluded.)	Deaths to Population (stillborn excluded.)	By Consumption, as one in	By Diseases of Lungs, as one in	By Fevers, as one in	By Dropsies, as one in	By Intemperance as one in
	60900		27.91	8 45	6.65	4.18	32.68	47.43
	62738		41.08	4.65	4.12	9 66	26.32	52.65
	64630	1910	33 83	5.68	5.17	4.83	27.28	40.63
1822	66590	2198	30.29	7.42	6.42	5.12	24.97	46.76
1823	68600	2000	34.30	3.47	6 62	6.60	26.66	80.00
1824	70670	1366	51 74	7.26	5.81	7.38	29.06	54 64
	72810	1453	50.11	1.92	4 28	10.76	21.24	69.19
1826	74990	1825	41.09	5.96	5.15	11.12	21.72	86.90

#### TABLE X.

This Table shows the proportion of Deaths among the Blacks, (slaves included) and among the Slaves exclusively, in Baltimore, to their Population, for the following years.

-					THE REAL PROPERTY.	
Years.	Population of the Blacks (slaves included.)	Whole Number of Deaths among the Blacks.	Deaths among the Blacks, to their Popu. as one in	Population of the Slaves.	Whole Number of Deaths among the Slaves.	Deaths among the Slaves, to their Popu. as one in
1820	14651	488	30.02			
	15090		35 67			
1822	15550		26.71			
1823	16020		24.30	4760	39	66.19
1824	16510		39.68		48	102.29
1825	17010		43.72		57	88.73
1826	17520		33.32		97	53.92
-	-		1			00.52

#### TABLE XI.

Summary of Deaths in the City of Boston, for a series of seven years, by the following Diseases, viz.

	Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths.	Consumption.	Acute Diseases of the Lungs.	Whole Number of Deaths by Dis- eases of Lungs.	Fevers.	Dropsies.	Dysentery.	Measles.	Intemperance.	WhoopingCough	Gastro Enteritis.	Palsy.	Diseases of Liver	Apoplexy.	Smallpox.	Suicide.
		43940				248	74	14	14	00	31	24	5	16	7	10	-	-
6		46490				246				149	36	26	10	99	8	10	00	
		49196			-		157	44	31	3	25	5			7		00	
		52050 55080				226			25				15	5	9	11		
		58281			-				45		26	13	16	12	6	9	2	-
		61620				293			56		30	27	15	14	25	12	1	4
	3020	01020	1204	201	49	280	160	71	47	10	43	23	25	9	17	10	00	5

Table showing the proportion of Deaths in Boston, by the following Diseases, to the whole number of Deaths—and the proportion of Deaths, (stillborn excluded) to the Population.

Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths (stillborn excluded.)	Proportion of Deaths to Popu- lation, as one in	By Consumption, as one in	By Diseases of Lungs, as one in	By Fevers, as one in	By Dropsies, as one in	ByIntemperance, as one in
	43940		43.33	4 60	4.08	13.70	72 42	32.70
	46490	1319	35.24	6.10	5.34	17.35	32.97	36.66
	49190	1088	45.21	6.55	5.13	19.08	24.72	43.52
1823	52050	1045	49 80	5.67	4.62	21 32	30.73	61.47
	55080		45.40	4.97	3.69	14.22	20.55	46.65
	58281							45.40
1826	61620	1167						27.13

#### TABLE XIII.

This Table shows the relative proportion of Deaths among the Whites and Blacks, to their Population, in the Cities of New-York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore.

x ears.	Deaths among Staves in Baltimore, to Population (Whites and free Blacks exc.) as one in	Deaths among Blacks in Baltimore, to Population (Whites excluded) as one in  Deaths among Free Blacks in Baltimore, to Pop. (Whites and Slaves exc.) as one in	Deaths among Whites in Baltimore, to Population (Blacks excluded) as one in	Deaths among Blacks in Philadelphia, to Pop. (Whites excluded) as one in	Deaths among Whites in Philadelphia, to Pop. (Blacks excluded) as one in	Deaths among Blacks in New-York, to Pop. (Whites excluded) as one in	Deaths among Whites in New-York, to Pop. (Blacks excluded) as one in
182	20	30.09	42.29				
189		35.6				19.50	40.23
189		26 7		20.46			
189	23 66.19		36.28				45.14
189					30.40		39.37
189			2 48.26				
189						17.53	
Average	. 77.78	32.08,33.3	1 39 99	19.42	34.05	19.01	40 17

This Table presents several important facts: 1st. The striking difference in the proportion of Deaths among the Whites and Blacks. 2d. The still more striking difference between the deaths of the Free Blacks and Slaves in the city of Baltimore. 3d. The disproportionate number of deaths among the Blacks in the cities of New-York and Philadelphia, compared with Baltimore. The relative physical incapacity of Negroes to sustain the influence of a severe climate, and the increased effect of poverty to diminish the chances of life in cold climates, are the most active causes in producing this result. It is probable that the disparity of deaths among the Blacks in New-York and Philadelphia to the Whites, is owing to the effects of poverty upon that degraded race. The same results from similar causes, but to a more limited extent, have been observed between the poor and wealthy sections of the city of Paris. The disproportion of deaths between the Free Blacks and Slaves in Baltimore, is worthy of particular notice, and probably arises from the care bestowed on the slaves by their masters, their comparative temperance, and the more regular course of their lives, contrasted with the idleness, intemperance, and improvidence of the free blacks.

This comparative view of the Whites and Blacks evinces clearly that so far as regards the personal condition of the slaves, their situation is by no means so deplorable as has been generally imagined. It is desirable that comparative researches should be continued and extended; and we regret that circumstances require our putting these Tables to press without being able (as we had contemplated) to submit the result of investigations in the large Southern and Western slave-holding Cities.

#### TABLE XIV.

Proportion of Deaths (stillborn included) to the entire Population, in New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston.

Years.	Deaths in New-York to Population, are as one in	Deaths in Philadel- phia, to Population, are as one in	Deaths in Baltimore to Population, are as one in	Deaths in Boston, to Population, are as one in
1816	40.82			
1817	45.37			
1818	36.00			
1819	37.95		26.62	
1820	35 16	33.90	38.60	39.83
	37.01			
	43 04			
	42.85			
1824	36.05	28.26	18.14	12.30
	33.09			
1826	35 42 3	31.22	39.01	19.13
-		-		-

#### TABLE XV.

This Table shows the average proportion of Deaths in every 1000 Inhabitants, per annum, for a series of years.

THE RESERVE THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NAMED I	the second second	CO TO LANGE OF THE PARTY OF THE			District of the same
	By Consumption, in every 1000	By all Diseases of the Lungs, in eve- ry 1000	By Fevers, in every 1000	By Dropsies, in every 1000	By Dysentery, in every 1000
In New-York In Philadelphia In Baltimore In Boston	4.96 4.20 4.12 4.03	6.34 5.47 5.86 4.99	2.12 4.21 4.22 1.25	2.02 1.89 1.02 0.902	1.02

## TABLE XVI.

A Comparative View of Mortality in New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston, by the following Diseases.

	By Consumption as one in	ByDiseases of t Lungs, as one	By Fevers, as o	By Dropsies, one in	By Intemperanc	By Palsy, as		tude.	Lo	ngitu W.	ide.
In New-York In Baltimore In Boston In Philadelphia Average	5.03 6.46 5.52	5.47 4.47 5.46		12.35 25.91 24.79 15.75 17.20	70.80 55.40 39.46 61.06	136.42 93.27	39 1 42 2 39 5	7 0	76 70	0 36 58	0

TABLE XVII.

Average proportion of Deaths to Population in the following Cities.

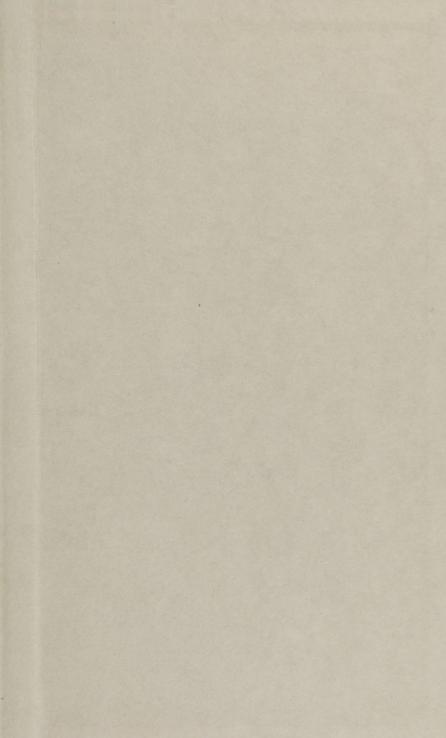
	Stillborn included, as one in	Stillborn excluded, as one in
Boston	41.26	44.66
New-York	37.83	40.02
Baltimore	35.44	37.47
Philadelphia	31.48	33.41
General Average	36.50	38.89

#### TABLE XVIII.

Summary of Deaths in the following Cities for a series of seven years, ending the first of January, 1827.

/				-		-								-	-
	Under one year of age (stillborn exc.)	Between 1 and 2.	Between 2 and 5.	Between 5 and 10.	Between 10 and 20.	Between 20 and 30.	Between 30 and 40.	Between 40 and 50.	Between 50 and 60.	Between 60 and 70.	Between 70 and 80.	Between 80 and 90.	Between 90 and 100.	Between 100 and 110	Between 110 and 120
New-York	5190	2568	2003	946	1261	3573	3617	2932	1847	1209	795	421	96	19	
Philadelphia	5438	2180	1907	1020										-	4
Baltimore	2464	967	938	553	987	1350				559	371	244	61		
Boston	1322			282						362					_
Total	14414	6599	5379	2801	3913	8962	9377	7620	5050	3465	2365	1338	342	6ŏ	4





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